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**08 CV 2151**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X  
ANTHONY MAURO, a shareholder, of Merchants  
Advantage Corporation, Suing In Right of Merchants  
Advantage Corporation,

Plaintiff,

- against -

STERLING NATIONAL BANK, a/k/a STERLING  
FINANCIAL SERVICES, a/k/a STERLING BANK  
CORP., JOHN GALLO and ARUN PATEL,

Defendants.  
-----X

**RULE 7.1  
STATEMENT**

Case No.:

FILED  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
2008 MAR -4 AM 10:47  
S.D. OF N.Y.

Pursuant to Rule 7.1 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and to enable judges and magistrate judges of the Court to evaluate possible disqualification or recusal, the undersigned counsel of record for defendant Sterling National Bank certifies that it is a private (non-governmental) party that is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sterling Bancorp., a New York financial holding company regulated by the Federal Reserve Board.

Dated: New York, NY  
March 4, 2008

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By: 

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